

Middlebury College March 28 1842

Dear Sister Frequent letter-writing if executed with the utmost care and curious correctness, is one of the best methods to enrich the mind with a copious ^{fund} ~~source~~ of useful knowledge. It enlarges the mind; ~~with~~ strengthens the understanding and, indeed, it is one of the best means to render a person respectable and undaunted in company. Correct letter-writing is the highway to Cicerean elegance; for ~~it~~ ^{when} a complete & eloquent sentence is once imprinted upon the memory by committing it to writing, its utility is not inconsiderable. An easy flow of words, uttered with strict propriety, is the first mark of a good education: it immediately lifts the scholar above the common vulgar; and gives him a pre-eminence in society. To effect this task of complete this branch of science, correct, premeditated letter-writing is undoubtedly important. Language fails me to speak of the opposite side. The ill effects I have too frequently felt to advocate it. I am bold to say that nothing more impedes the progress of the learner than incorrect uncorrected and misspelt letters. It is the direct way to make an incorrect scholar. To remedy this defect no antidote is so curable as a thorough and critical examination of them by instructors, tutors and President. There are many obstacles in the way of my paying due attention to my letters especially if I write frequently. I have therefore thought that it would be better to write less frequent and more correct. To correspond with you is a source of pleasure to me. Were I deprived of this privilege ~~would~~ ^{I should be} excluded from one principle source of pleasure I now possess. I can sympathize with you in adversity; rejoice in prosperity. I take a great interest in your future welfare. Should I disappoint

be your lot: grief would be mine. But I trust it is not.
But above all should our firm hopes of joining ~~to~~
together in the fong of redeeming grace beyond the
shades of death be blasted; should we fall from the
pinnacle of heaven to the regions of despair how would
our hearts burn with anguish, and consume in sad dis-
appointment!!! God forbid for his Son's sake.

Your Brother in sincerity L Parsons.

P.S. Our Examinations closed on Thursday. Had a noble
exhibition on Thursday Even. People say it was
better than commencements Mr Norton lately has
caught the missionary zeal. I think it is good news.
He will come to Whiting with me when I come.

I wish you would send me my notes on Faber on the prophe-
-cies. also I shall need Luther's Stare It will save me
purchasing one. The revival of religion has cured our class
of that unbounded jealousy which formerly reigned.

Miss Lucretia Parsons

Whiting Pa.

1819. a letter
from brother Levi, in
writing on letter